

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 049597 TOSEC 060033

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 049597 TOSEC 060033

NODIS

CHEROKEE

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT CAIRO 2724, SENT SECSTATE MAR 1, 1976:

QUOTE S E C R E T CAIRO 2724

NODIS/CHEROKEE

EYES ONLY FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, US

SUBJECT: SADAT'S MESSAGE

REF: CAIRO 2666

1. WHEN I TALKED WITH FAHMY TODAY, I TOLD HIM THAT YOU FELT IT IMPORTANT THAT I BE HERE FOR THE SIMON VISIT AND THAT I HAD THEREFORE ASKED CHUCK ROBINSON TO CONVEY TO YOU THE MAIN POINT OF SADAT'S ORAL MESSAGE. I MYSELF EXPECTED TO LEAVE ON SECY SIMON'S PLANE FOR ROME MARCH 7 AND THEN PROCEED FOLLOWING DAY TO WASHINGTON WHERE I COULD GIVE YOU DETAILS.

2. FAHMY WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE DELAY IN MY TRIP.

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HE DOES NOT BELIEVE CHUCK ROBINSON CAN GIVE THE FULL FLAVOR OF THE

PROBLEM, SINCE CHUCK HAS NOT PERSONALLY TALKED TO SADAT. THE ISSUE AT STAKE IS THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO ANNOUNCE DURING HIS MID-MARCH ADDRESS TO THE NATION A MAJOR POLICY DECISION WHICH COULD EFFECT DETENTE, GENEVA AND EXPOSE SADAT TO MORE INTENSIFIED SOVIET ATTACK. FAHMY IS DEEPLY WORRIED ABOUT WHAT THE PRESIDENT INTENDS TO DO. HE FEELS IT IS UNNECESSARY, UNTIMELY AND COULD BE HARMFUL. THUS FAR, WHILE ADMITTING THE VALIDITY OF FAHMY'S VIEWS, THE PRESIDENT IS ADAMANT. IN FAHMY'S OPINION, ONLY COUNSEL FROM PRESIDENT FORD AND YOU MIGHT POSSIBLY DETER HIM. IN ANY EVENT, BOTH SADAT AND FAHMY ARE ANXIOUS THAT I DISCUSS THIS WITH PRESIDENT FORD AND YOU PERSONALLY AND HOPE I CAN BE BACK NO LATER THAN MARCH 10TH TO GIVE SADAT ANY VIEWS WE MAY CARE TO OFFER.

3. FAHMY INDICATED YOU NEED NOT BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE SIMON VISIT. HE RECALLED NOTHING HAD COME OUT OF SIMON'S EARLIER TRIP AND GOE EXPECTS NOTHING OF SUBSTANCE TO COME OUT OF THIS ONE EITHER. HE THOUGHT MAESTRONE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO HANDLE ANY MATTER THAT MIGHT COME UP WITH SIMON. WHILE IT WOULD BE BETTER IF I WERE HERE FOR THE SIMON VISIT IN CASE THE TREASURY BOYS GET OUT OF HAND, MAESTRONE CAN DOUBTLESS SEE TO IT THAT THINGS DO NOT GET OUT OF HAND.

4. IN ORDER TO MEET FAHMY'S DATE, I WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE BEFORE THE SIMON VISIT. IF IT IS AGREEABLE TO YOU AND I COULD MEET WITH YOU ON FRIDAY OR SATURDAY, I COULD ARRANGE TO LEAVE CAIRO THURSDAY, MARCH 4, WITH A VIEW TO ARRIVING IN WASHINGTON SAME EVENING. PLEASE INSTRUCT. EILTS UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

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